DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION

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Joseph Byrne

October 18, 2013 Chair

Joe Del Bosque

Paul Massera Vice Chair

Andrew Ball Member

California Water Plan Update 2013 California Department of Water Resources

P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 95436-0001

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Member

Dear Mr. Massera:

Luther Hintz Member

Adán Ortega, Jr.

Member

David Orth Member

Anthony Saracino Member

Sue Sims **Executive Officer**

The California Water Commission (Commission) wishes to provide general comments on Volume 1 of the Public Review Draft of the California Water Plan Update 2013 (CWP 2013). The Commission would like to commend the California Water Plan staff and the many stakeholders who actively participated in development of the CWP 2013 on their efforts. The resulting CWP Strategic Plan is a robust plan that sets the path forward towards sustainable, integrated water management, a healthy environment, and economic stability for California.

The Commission appreciated the opportunity to participate in the update process as part of the State Agency Steering Committee. The collaborative environment fostered by the planning process sets the stage for productive collaboration among agencies at all levels of government and varied stakeholders.

The Commission strongly supports the three major themes featured in the CWP Update 2013 to 1) advance Integrated Water Management, 2) strengthen government agency alignment, and 3) invest in innovation and infrastructure. The goals and strategies of the Commission's Strategic Plan 2012, which is a featured State plan in the CWP 2013, align closely with these major themes.

The Commission recognizes that no single agency has sufficient responsibility, authority, expertise, or resources to ensure natural resources stewardship throughout California; solutions must be integrated across geographic and jurisdictional boundaries. A shared vision for the future, with coordinated priorities, will allow the State to strategically and systematically invest in the highest priority, multi-benefit water management and infrastructure projects, and achieve sustainable water management solutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the plan and we look forward to the opportunity to work together in the future to achieve a more sustainable water future for all Californians.

Sincerely,

Joe Byrne

Chair, California Water Commission

cc: Mark Cowin, Director, Department of Water Resources

Gary Bardini, Integrated Water Management Deputy Director, Department of Water Resources

Kamyar Guivetchi, Manager, Statewide Integrated Water Management,

Department of Water Resources